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<div><p>ZAKO, ENDRE /GEN/ SEX M DOB ? CIT HUNGARY OCC ? FORMER CHIEF OF AUREL LISZAY NOW A REFUGEE IN INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA</p><p>PIRA-04448 10 MAY 49 P13</p><p>AND</p><p>WAS KAPOK</p><p>R 7205160722</p><p>DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2006</p></div>					
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FORM 867
9-66 OBSOLETE
PREVIOUS EDITIONS

SECRET

GROUP 1
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(7-48)

30518
#1

#1230

From: Italy Report No: PIR-3935 Date: 13 June 1949
Local File No:

No. of Pages: 2 No. of Enclosures: -

Report Made By: [] Approved By: []

Distribution:
By copy to:
Washington (3)
DEMEANOR
Hungarian IS
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Orally to:

Source Cryptonym: [] References:

Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

1. The accompanying report is the fruit of [] recent visit to Austria, from which he returned about 25 May, and during which he saw General Andre ZAKO personally. The nature of the report leads one to suspect that it was planned for AIS consumption, and constitutes a plea for AIS support of ZAKO's organization. It is obvious from this and other reports submitted by [] that he is aware of his own indirect AIS patronage.

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27 July 49

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FILE CLASSIFICATION CHANGE REQUEST

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100-51-59

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SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

30518
#1

Subject: General Andre ZAKO

Report No: FIR-3935

Place Acquired: Rome

Date of Info: See below

Evaluation: F-6

Date Acquired: 25 May 1949

Source: []

Date of Report: 9 June 1949

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DATE 27 July 49

1. Subject served as the last Chief of Hungarian IS during World War II, from November 1944 to March 1945. As such, his activities had mainly to do with offensive operations based in central and Western Hungary. He organized sabotage groups whose mission was to impede the advance of Russian troops; in addition, he was supposed to organize anti-Russian partisan units. Aiding him in these tasks were trusted elements carefully selected among the Hungarian population. Among their accomplishments was the caching of an enormous stock of arms and ammunition.
2. In the spring of 1945, however, Subject decided that further resistance to the advancing Russian forces was futile, and that operations should be postponed in order to minimize reprisals and damage to the country. Nevertheless, since he had foreseen Russian expansionism, he decided not to reveal the details of the organization set up by him in the hope that at a more opportune time it might play a useful part in the anti-Communist struggle.
3. In view of the above decision, Subject then gave himself up to the American Army, by which he was transferred to Cherbourg to be embarked for the United States. The armistice was however signed before he sailed, and he was therefore held in Western Europe.
4. In 1946 Subject went to Hungary, disguised as a priest, and remained in that country until the end of 1947. During this period, he was able to visit personally all the members of the underground organization which he had previously set up. He went from town to town strengthening the anti-Communist spirit of the people, while at the same time cautioning them against premature action. Subject's personal experience during this period convinced him that, in the post-War period, the Hungarian people had undergone a profound transformation of character; they had learned, for one thing, the value of silence and discretion. Tangible proof of their discretion lay in the fact that although Subject lived in Hungary for a year and a half, although he circulated widely among all types of people, and although whole towns were often aware of his presence, the Communist-controlled police never learned of his clandestine activity.
5. After his return to Western Europe, Subject decided, in view of the United States' newly-established policy of resistance to the USSR, to offer his services to the Americans. He soon managed to contact US military officials at Munich, and reached a partial agreement with them. He did not, however, succeed in obtaining an important assignment in AIS.
6. Subject's lack of success with AIS was due primarily to the fact that the American command had confided the direction of their IS, even for the Hungarian area, exclusively to former German officers of the Abwehr and SS. The Germans, who were both able and prudent, launched a campaign of disparagement against the Hungarians of Subject's group. They claimed that the Hungarians were men of low character, who would sell information for personal gain to any of the occupation forces. It is probable that there were instances of such trafficking, but they were isolated ones, and the Hungarians responsible, although officers, were not former IS personnel. The Germans' motives in this discrediting Subject's

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purely competitive; they did not want their own favored position with AIS to be challenged. But whatever their motives, they were successful, and AIS put Subject on the shelf when he refused to submit to the authority (and the intrigues) of the former SS officers.

7. In the past year, the Germans have been able to select their own co-workers, and have hired a number of Hungarian officers of considerable ability. The latter at present constitute the principal AIS group handling the Hungarian area, and are directed by the Germans. Thus the Germans have been able to establish a hegemony over Hungarian matters in AIS.
8. In 1948, Subject contacted all former members of the Hungarian Army throughout the world, most of whom are located in the Western Zone of Germany, the other countries of Western Europe, South America and Australia. He had endeavored to unify these persons in an anti-Communist organization, the members of which are under orders to put themselves at the disposition of the governments of the countries in which they find themselves, for anti-Communist action of any sort. At present, the organization has 8000 registered members, and it is hoped eventually to enroll a total of 11,000.
9. Subject and his collaborators are non-political. He cannot be considered a reactionary, even though a fervent anti-Communist. He hopes that after the signing of a peace treaty with Austria, his freedom of movement will be increased and communication with Hungary, through Styria, be eased. He already has some secure channels of communication, through officers of the present Hungarian Army located in the border regions of the country, and has recently, for example, been able to organize the escape of 46 Hungarian priests to Austria.
10. Subject hopes that he will not have to remain forever on the shelf, and that he will gain the support of AIS. He at present lives on a minimal subsidy, and withal manages to continue his organizational activities. He enjoys the best of relations with the Austrian authorities, and with their support is able, even without the support of AIS, to obtain considerable results.

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